Subsidised wheat smuggling

Licences of MPA's two flour mills cancelled

By Our Correspondent

SAHIWAL: Ghalla Mandi police registered a case on Sunday against the managements of two flour mills, reportedly owned by PML-N MPA Malik Arshad, allegedly over smuggling of subsidised wheat worth over Rs10 million, loaded on three trucks, to a Sheikhupura mills.

Reports say that taking notice of the smuggling, Deputy Commissioner Sami Uullah Farooq suspended the licences of both mills.

According to District Food Controller Asif Imran Mirza received information that subsidised wheat from two local flour mills -- Baba Farid Flour Mills and Baba Farid Food Industries-- was being smuggled to Sheikhupura and sold in the black market.

Acting on the information, a team led by Mr Mirza and Assistant Food Controller Saeed Ahmad Khan conducted a raid on three trucks on Qutab Shahana Bridge on the river Ravi and seized the vehicles having registration numbers 184-TAP, 1496-K, and 5194-JV, carrying 105 metric tons of subsidised wheat worth over Rs10m.

The wheat, part of the government's subsidised quota for the two mills, was being smuggled through a broker, Yousaf, for National Flour Mills, Sheikhupura.

The department's team nabbed the truck drivers and handed them over to police.

The police registered a case against the management of both flour mills on the complaint of AFC Saeed Ahmad Khan, under sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 of The Punjab Prevention of Speculation in Essential Commodities Act 2021 and 3/6 of the Foodstuff Control Act.

The investigation is underway.

The DC directed Deputy Director Food Sardar Amanullah Somroo to closely monitor all flour mills in the district to check wheat smuggling.

Khanewal Police arrest fibre optic thieves' gang

By Our Correspondent

TOBA TEK SINGH: The police claimed to have arrested an inter-provincial seven-member gang for allegedly stealing PTCL's optical fibre cables worth Rs11.5 million.

Speaking at a press conference on Sunday, Khanewal DPO Ismail Kharak said the gang known as the Faryadi Chor gang was running an organised network of stealing fibre optic cables in Khanewal and its surroundings.

He said that after PTCL complained to the Khanewal police in this regard, he formed a police team under the supervision of Saddar Circle DSP Khalid Joya and City Police SHO Muhammad Safdar.

He said the team with tireless efforts and utilising modern technology arrested the Faryad alias Faryadi Gang.

The arrested accused included Faryad Ali of Lahore; Muhammad Sajid of Duniyapur, Lodhran; Nasir of Khanewal; Shakir Pathan and his brother Nizam Pathan of Bajaur.

He said stolen optical fibre cable, a car, a pick up, eight motorcycles, six pistols and bullets had been recovered from the accused.

The DPO said that the arrested accused also revealed their involvement in other crimes during interrogation and further investigation was underway.

PTCL officials were also present during the press conference.

Chiniot bar row with PbBC continues

By Our Correspondent

CHINIOT: The Chiniot District Bar annual election dispute with Punjab Bar Council (PbBC) deepened on Saturday after lawyers "elected' their president through a show of hand in the general house meeting.

The caretaker president and secretary termed the election illegal and issued a show cause notice to the newly-elected bar president.

The issue surfaced a few months ago when the Punjab Bar Council ousted the elected cabinet of the DBA and placed a caretaker setup on charges of irregularities in the distribution of chambers in the newly-constructed District Judicial Complex.

According to Legal Practitioners and Bar Council Act, 1973, no one is permitted to call the general house meeting and elect any office-bearer in this way.

The election can only be conducted by authorised election board or caretaker cabinet.

LAHORE: Kite flyers visit the Ravi bank to assess the availability of string for three-day Basant festivel. — White Star

Unidentified couple consumes 'poisonous pills', dies in hospital

By Our Correspondent

SARGODHA: An unidentified couple died at the Dr Faisal Masood Teaching Hospital, Sargodha on Sunday after they were brought in in an unconscious state.

As per details, a couple was brought to the emergency room in an unconscious state after they had consumed wheat preservation pills. Hospital sources said that the couple underwent treatment but could not survive and their bodies were being kept at the hospital until they could be identified.

They would be buried in the local cemetery by the Municipal Corporation if their identities could not be verified, sources said.

The matter had been reported to the police, who were investigating.

DYSFUNCTIONAL WATER SYSTEM: A recently completed multi-million rupee water supply project at the Sargodha Government Faisal Masood Teaching Hospital has stopped working causing inconvenience for the patients and staff of the hospital.

As per details, the project was completed under the supervision of former MS Dr Tariq, however, three months after its completion, the water supply had completely stopped at some departments. Meanwhile, the filtration plant installed outside was also not working forcing patients and their relatives to buy water from the canteen.

The spokesperson of the MS claimed that people misused the water supply and destroyed this welfare-oriented project. He said that even the water faucet and fixtures had been stolen and taps and other fixtures in the hospital's washrooms had been taken.

ATTACKED: A man was injured on Sunday when motorcycle riders opened fire on him allegedly due to an ongoing domestic dispute.

As per details, Sharjeel, a Railways employee, was shopping at a grocery store on the Railway Road when motorcycle riders opened fire on him. His brother claimed that his brother's in-laws wanted him to divorce his wife over a domestic dispute and that was the reason for the attack.

The injured man was shifted to the DHQ Hospital and the Sajid Shaheed Police were investigating the matter.

KIDNAPPED: A case has been registered after armed men allegedly kidnapped a youth from the Sargodha Highway and demanded a ransom of Rs2 million.

According to the police, the young man was buying sweets with his family from a shop near the Dharima village on Khushab Road in Sargodha when armed men forced the young man and his sister-in-law into a vehicle and fled.

Police claimed the men left the kidnapped woman near the Katcha Noor area and fled with the young man. The abductor had allegedly demanded a ransom of Rs2 million from the family.

The police registered a case against unknown suspects and were investigating.

Love triangle ends up in murder

By Our Correspondent

GUJRAT: A 39 years old motorbike mechanic was shot dead by his friend over a girl they both loved in Lalamusa city police precincts on Sunday.

Police said Raheel Shahid of Bhalot ran a motorbike workshop in Lalamusa city had friendship with Ali Hamza. In a verbal clash a day earlier, Hamza warned Shahid to stay away from the girl.

Hamza and his accomplice Waqar ambushed a car near the Government Janjua Degree College and shot at Shahid who breathed his last in Lalamusa Trauma Centre.

Police and Punjab Forensic Science Agency PFSA reached the spot and collected forensic evidence. Police have registered a case against six people, including three nominated – Ali, Waqar and girl Alishba.

ACCIDENT: A 35 years old woman was killed by a motorcyclist coming from the wrong side on GT Road near Gol Masjid on Sunday.

Rescue officials said motorcyclist Tayyab, 22, also sustained injuries in the incident whereas the unidentified woman died on the spot after the bike hit her. Meanwhile, a man and his son were injured when gas cylinder caught fire in Uggowal village along Bhimbher Road on Sunday.

Rescue officials reached the scene and extinguished fire and shifted Adnan Ali (31) and Ibrahim (7) to the ABSTH.

FAISALABAD: A confectioner prepares traditional Jalebi at his shop. — Online

Hostel owner booked for varsity girl's rape

TOBA TEK SINGH: A private hostel owner was booked on Sunday for raping his student resident of his hostel in Faisalabad.

The girl, a native of Sahiwal, alleged in her FIR registered with Jhang Bazaar police under Section 376 (rape) of the PPC that she was a student of the National Textile University and staying in the hostel, owned by the suspect. Her mobile was out of order and she spoke to the suspect about it. He offered to get her mobile phone repaired by his cousin.

On Saturday evening, he called his cousin to take away the girl's mobile phone from his flat and called the girl there too. When she went inside the flat, the suspect locked it from inside and raped her, threatening to kill her.

ACCIDENT: Two persons died and as many were injured when a bus hit a motorcycle near Adda Gujjar Singhwala on Sheikhupura Road in Faisalabad.

Rescue 1122 said the bus driver tried to save some people crossing the road but ran over a motorcycle. The deceased motorcycle riders were identified as Aqsa Saleem (35) and her daughter Aneeza (8 months). Aqsa's husband Saleem (55) and her sister Arooj (22) were injured. They were shifted to the Allied Hospital.

Meanwhile, two minor sisters died when the dilapidated roof of their house caved in on them near Aik Minar Wali Masjid in Pathan Colony of Sheikhupura. They were identified as Amna (12) and Shabnam (8). — **Correspondent**

Human traffickers held

By Our Correspondent

GUJRAT: The Federal Investigation Agency claimed to have arrested six human traffickers involved in visa fraud and migrant smuggling during a crackdown in the region.

A spokesman for FIA said the arrested suspects also included Sajid Chehal of Gujranwala who was wanted in five different cases of human trafficking.

Suspects have been arrested from Gujranwala and Lahore by the FIA teams. They were identified as Arif Maseeh, Salman Nawaz, Naeem, Farhan and Younis.

These suspects, he said, had been involved in Rs36.8 million fraud for sending people abroad through illegal means.

Three of a family killed, as many injured in fog-related accident

By Our Correspondent

TOBA TEK SINGH: Three members of a family were killed and as many were critically injured when their car collided with an overturned tractor-trolley on the Faisalabad Expressway due to dense fog on Sunday morning.

As per details, the family was returning from Islamabad when the accident happened near the motorway (M-4) Sahianwala interchange in Chak Jhumra of Faisalabad.

The deceased were identified as a trader belonging to Faisalabad, Sheikh Muhammad Adeel (42), his two daughters Hadia (8) and Ayesha (6).

Adeel died instantly while his daughters succumbed to their injuries at the Allied Hospital.

The injured included Amaima (12), Ammara (45) and Tehseen (42), who were shifted to the Allied Hospital.

BLIND MURDER SOLVED: The Faisalabad Razabad Police claimed to have traced a blind murder of a man and arrested the deceased man's wife and her paramour for killing him.

Police said deceased Muhammad Usman was found mysteriously dead on November 20, 2025 in his house.

Police said that his wife had informed the police that he had consumed a large quantity of liquor due to which he died.

However, police claimed that during investigation when his wife Nabila Bibi was taken into custody, she confessed that she had illicit relations with her husband's friend Akhtar Ali.

Furthermore, police claimed that she confessed that they had planned to kill Usman and marry each other. She said that she and accused Akhtar had poisoned her husband to death. Police also arrested Akhtar Ali.

Meanwhile, the Faisalabad Airport Police arrested youths Zeeshan and Ramzan for allegedly murdering one Zohaib in Chak 65 JB.

Police claimed that accused Zeeshan used to speak to the cousin of deceased Zohaib on the phone. When the deceased told accused Zeeshan to stop speaking with her, Zeeshan and his accomplice Ramzan allegedly shot Zohaib to death a few months ago, police claimed.

VISIT: Government College University Faisalabad (GCUF) hosted US Consul General Stetson Sanders along with US Consulate Public Diplomacy Officer Ms Raquel J King-Nicudemus, said a press release.

They visited the university's Lincoln Corner and the Business Incubation Center (BIC) where they toured various stalls showcasing locally manufactured products and technology-driven projects developed by the students and young entrepreneurs.

At the Lincoln Corner, Mr Sanders held an interactive session with students, focusing on educational opportunities, cross-cultural exchange programmes and leadership development.

He termed the corner a pivotal platform for fostering strong educational and cultural ties between Pakistan and the United States. The exchange programmes, academic collaborations and resource-sharing initiatives were empowering students with skills and knowledge for a brighter future, he added.

Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Rauf-i-Azam emphasised the transformative role of the Lincoln Corner in equipping students with modern skills and resources, reaffirming GCUF's commitment to utilise the facility for student and faculty training, expanding learning opportunities and enhancing global exposure for the youth of Faisalabad.

ARRESTED: A prominent local political figure, who was a former union council nazim and the village lumberdar, was arrested on Sunday along with his two accomplices by the Mamukanjan Police in Tandlianwala tehsil of Faisalabad for allegedly being involved in selling drugs.

Police claimed that during a raid at the house of accused Muhammad Riaz Korai in Chak 511 GB, more than two kilograms of heroin and 2.5kg of hashish was recovered.

Police said that he along with his accomplices Rizwan Shahid and Arsalan had been arrested.

WHEAT THEFT: A Faisalabad FIA anti-corruption team arrested a private wheat broker Muhammad Mansha on Sunday for his alleged involvement in embezzling wheat worth millions from Tandlianwala.

An FIA official said the arrest was made after under arrest Passco staffers revealed during the investigation that he was an accomplice of other arrested accused in a misappropriation of wheat case.

The official claimed that on the indication of accused Mansha, FIA also recovered 175 bags of wheat from a private godown, while 125 empty Passco gunny bags were also recovered from his godown.

It is learnt that at least 12,000 bags of 100kg each had been replaced by gunny bags filled with dirt at several Passco godowns in Tandlianwala.

FISH FARMS: At least 100 modern fish farms will be established in Samundri, Chak Jhumra and Dijkot in the next financial year under a pilot project worth Rs250 million.

In a meeting in this regard on Sunday, commissioner had asked Livestock Director Dr Haider Ali Khan to send him the feasibility study of the project.

The meeting also discussed a proposed model cattle town pilot project, where 6,000 cattle could be kept in its sheds.